

A Long and Healthy Life

Tips to make the most of your cat's golden years.

By Dusty Rainbolt

Despite being 18 years old, Natasha still enjoyed a game of chase the string. But when Joyce Wilden of Melbourne, Fla., noticed her black cat was losing weight even though she was eating more, she took Tasha to the veterinarian for a checkup. A Blood test revealed hyperthyroidism (a disease in which too much thyroid hormone is produced).

Because Tasha could be difficult to pill, Wilden chose to treat the condition with daily doses of compounded medicinal gel massaged into the tips of her ears. Today Tasha is almost 20 and still going strong. She's the poster cat for the benefits of a proactive owner and regular senior checkups.

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